

pupae took 48 hours approx. The pupae were kept in the airing cupboard at 68°-80°F and were sprayed with water twice daily so that moisture was always present. Twigs were placed in the rearing cage so that the environment was suitable for wing drying. On the 17th November the wing pattern could be seen clearly through the pupal wing cases and the lower abdominal segments turned a pinkish-brown colour with no green colour remaining.

4	<i>chalcites</i>	hatched on the	18th Nov	3 males	1 female
4	"	"	" " 19th "	2 "	2 "
6	"	"	" " 20th "	4 "	2 "
6	"	"	" " 21st "	4 "	2 "
15	"	"	" " 22nd "	9 "	6 "
15	"	"	" " 23rd "	8 "	7 "
<hr/> 50 total				<hr/> 30 "	<hr/> 20 "

30 specimens were killed and set in perfect condition. six were crippled and 14 kept for breeding purposes. Mating was not observed for some 10 days after hatching and difficulty was experienced in finding the right conditions. Cool and warm temperatures were tried but seemingly to no avail unless mating took place in the early hours of the morning. A mixture of honey and sugar was introduced to the cage and the moths fed on this readily. The soaked cotton wool pad was fought over by the moths and they lived for well over a month in the cage.

I found two pairs mating and transferred these to a rearing cage. After several days a large series of eggs were laid, and at least 200 must have hatched. Unfortunately it was at a time when I had many other commitments and time was scarce. I had to release most of them to the wild but no doubt they will not survive the rigours of our winter, but at this moment I have about 25 larvae in my rearing cage and they are all healthy. I hope to breed again in the summer when I shall be able to sleeve the larvae on growing plants outside.

LASIVS FULIGINOSUS (LATREILLE) (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. — Having recently received a copy of the new (1979) edition of the *Ants*, Part 5 of the Biological Records Centre's *Provisional Atlas of the Insects of the British Isles*, it occurs to me that I ought to place on permanent record the discovery of a small colony of the large shiny black ant *Lasius fuliginosus* at Stone, Bucks., on June 7, 1979 (Map ref. SP 792123). The ants were on a single nettle plant, among a clump of others, on a dense grassy path verge and were tending a densely-packed colony of dark green aphides. My identification was subsequently confirmed by Dr. M. V. Brian of the Nature Conservancy's Furzebrook Research — ANTHONY WOOTTON, Stone, Bucks.